

Remarks/Argument

Claim Summary

By this Amendment, claims 1 and 17 have been revised.

Claims 1-30 remain pending in the application.

35 U.S.C. ¶102/¶103

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10, 14-20, 27 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. ¶102 or ¶103 as being unpatentable over Nii et al. for the reasons stated at pages 4-8 of the Office Action.

Without acquiescing to the Examiner's reasoning, and in an effort to expedite prosecution, independent claims 1 and 17 have been amended herein to more clearly define over the Nii et al. reference.

In particular, by this Amendment, independent claims 1 and 17 have been revised to recite the insulating layer pattern 108 and the poly-silicon layer pattern 110 that is depicted, for example, in FIGS. 2 and 4-6 of the present application. As shown in these figures, and as claimed in the amended claims 1 and 17, these layers 108 and 110 are stacked over the isolation region 106, and the base layer 112 (FIG. 2) extends from the collector region over the patterned poly-silicon layer pattern 110. Nii et al. does not teach or suggest at least this aspect of the now-pending claims.

That is, Nii et al. teaches that a polysilicon base lead-out region 7 (connected to a base region 6) is formed directly on the oxide isolation region 5. See, e.g., para [0149] of Nii et al. Reference number 9 of Nii et al. denotes a metal silicide formed on the base lead-out region 7.

Nii et al. does not teach or suggest the stacked insulating layer 108 and poly-silicon layer 110 stacked over the isolation layer 106 as recited in the now pending claims.

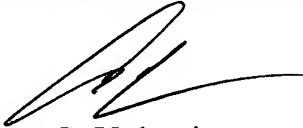
For at least the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully contend that claims 1-30 define over the Nii et al. reference.

Conclusion

No other issues remaining, reconsideration and favorable action on the claims 1-30 now pending in the application are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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